

God of all the universe, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

On this day we are mindful of our shared inheritance from a great ancestor of faith, who was called by You to leave his home and go to a place he would be shown by You.

Bless the Members of this people's House and their Senate colleagues, who honor our pioneers of space exploration this day with the Congressional Gold Medal. We thank You for the spirit of exploration that You have placed within us, and which our great Nation and, most especially, some of our most heroic citizens have utilized to expand the horizons of human longing and possibility through space travel.

In these difficult times in our history, most notably for our fellow citizens struggling to make ends meet, may the Members of this House imagine solutions that might seem to be as unreachable as the Moon once was thought to be and work together to obtain the common goal of a working and prosperous America.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WALBERG led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 20 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

WE MUST CUT GOVERNMENT SPENDING NOW

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, according to the Department of the Treasury, as of November 14, 2011, the national debt had reached \$14.973 trillion, and will reach \$15 trillion in the coming days. This is an economic threat to American families.

Since the President took office in 2009, the deficit has increased by a

record \$4.3 trillion. In order to protect America's future, we must be serious about cutting runaway spending, and we must act now to promote small businesses to create jobs.

House Republicans have sent to the Senate for consideration nearly 90 bills to encourage jobs. This legislation dealt directly with limiting spending, terminating failing housing programs, and encouraging job growth and job creation. It's time for the liberals in the Senate and the President to do the same.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism. Our sympathy to the family of Steve Kodman, assistant solicitor of Aiken, Barnwell, and Bamberg.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3010

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 3010.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the contributions of America's first people in recognition of Native American Heritage Month. Throughout history, Native Americans have made countless advances for our Nation and our society and our culture.

The constitutional separation of powers we have in our government is based on the structure of the Iroquois nation. Jim Thorpe brought home two Olympic gold medals in 1912. Navajo code-talkers helped us win the Pacific campaign in World War II. Ira Hayes became a national hero, raising the flag at Iwo Jima. Jim Plunkett is one of only four men to win both the Heisman Trophy and the Super Bowl MVP award.

As a Member of Congress, I've introduced a bill to establish Native American Day in California. And in 2009 I introduced legislation signed by President Obama designating the Friday after Thanksgiving as Native American Heritage Day.

We must never take for granted the rich history and culture of our first Americans. This November, I encourage everyone to honor the contributions of our tribal communities and recognize Native American Heritage Month.

BACK-DOOR REGULATION

(Mr. WALBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to

the new guidelines from the administration that restrict marketing certain food and beverage products toward children. Instead of principles, these guidelines should be treated as what they really are: unnecessary regulations.

As introduced by the administration, these rules falsely claim to be voluntary. For the first time in our Nation's history, the food and beverage industry and advertising businesses will be forced to completely alter the way they promote even their healthiest products.

Great Michigan companies like Kellogg's, that already make nutritious products, will be harshly affected. Stripping Tony the Tiger off the cereal boxes isn't going to make children healthier. What it will do is tack on another burdensome regulation for Kellogg's and other companies to deal with, destroy an American icon, and cost jobs.

Guidelines with this type of power should not circumvent the normal rule-making process, including review by the OMB. These guidelines should be withdrawn immediately by the administration.

EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

(Mr. STARK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, last year unemployment insurance kept over 3 million people, including 1 million kids, out of poverty. These benefits are due to expire, and without an extension, more than 300,000 Californians will lose this lifeline.

Extending unemployment insurance is the smart thing to do. It creates jobs. People spend their benefits, they buy gasoline, groceries, put people to work in the communities, send their kids to school.

People scraping by on unemployment aren't looking for a handout. These are people who have been working for a long time. They are employable. There just aren't jobs, and they're out there looking to find one. We should help them. They're not looking for a handout, they're looking for a hand up.

Are we going to tell them we had money for wars and bank bailouts, tax cuts for millionaires, and not for workers? I don't think so.

A constituent frustrated at the gridlock in Congress wrote, "America, wake up before it's too late. Our political system doesn't work."

Let's all work together and prove this constituent of mine wrong.

SEND SURPLUS MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO BORDER

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, in the vast, wide open, rugged, desolate